#### NEW LAWS FOR BUSINESS MEN

CHANGES MADE BY THE LAST LEGIS-LATURE.

THEY AFFECT CORPORATIONS, BANKS AND OTHER

FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS INTERESTS. Albany, July 13 (Special).-The Legislature of 1895 ed the bill from the Statutory Revision Comission known as the Membership Corporations This law (Chapter 559) gives general pro-s relating to corporations of this sort, includng boards of trade. The General Corporation law mended in these respects: Defining a stock ation as one having a capital stock divided into shares, which is authorized by law to dis-tribute to the holders thereof dividends or shares f the surplus profits of the corporation; a corporation is not a stock corporation because it has ed certificates called certificates of stock, which are in fact merely certificates of membership, and t is not authorized by law to distribute to its es any dividends or share of profits arising from the operations of the corporation; providing that no corporation shall be hereafter organized under the laws of this State with the words "bank," "Insurance," "indemnity" "guarantee" or "benefit" as part of its name, except a corporation formed under the Banking law or the Insurance

The Business Corporations law was amended re lating to incorporation, restrictions, reorganization and consolidation, but more particularly to provide that no corporation shall incur any debts until the amount of capital specified in its certificate of in-corporation, as the amount of capital with which will begin business, shall have been paid in in nemey or property.

#### TAX ON FOREIGN CORPORATIONS.

An important law was passed providing that every foreign corporation, except insurance and manufacturing companies and huilding and loan associations, now authorized to do business in this State by the general amendment of 1892 to the General Corporation law, shall pay to the State Treasurer for the use of the State a license fee of eighth of 1 per cent for the privilege of exer cising its corporate franchises or carrying on its business in such corporate or organized capacity in this State, on the first day of December, 1895, be computed on the basis of the amount of capital stock employed by it within this State dur ng the year preceding that date, and every such foreign corporation which shall hereafter be author-ted to do business in this State shall pay a like icense fee for the privilege, to be computed upon the basis of the capital stock employed by it within this State for its business during the first year of carrying on its business in this State.

The amount of capital upon which such taxes shall be paid shall be fixed by the Controller, who shall have the same authority to examine the books and records in this State of such foreign corporations and the employes thereof, and the same power to issue his warrant for the collection of such taxes, as he now has with regard to domestic corporations. Every such foreign corpora-tion hereafter authorized to do business in this State shall, before receiving the certificate of authority provided by law, pay to the State Treas the use of the State, the tax provided for. No action shall be maintained or recovery had in any of the courts of this State by such foreign corporation doing business in this State, without ning the certificate of authority prescribed by

mw. and a receipt for the license fee Governor failed to sign a bill amending the ck Corporation law as to directors, inspectors, meetings, reductions or increase of capital, and many other particulars. A new law provides that in a proceeding for the voluntary dissolution of a corporation the Court may, in the furtherance of ustice, upon notice to the Attorney-General, and the Attorney-General not objecting, and upon such further notice to creditors or others interested as the Court shall direct, which notice may be made by mail upon all persons and corporations not re-siding or existing within the State, relieve a re-ceiver from any omission, defect or default, in any ling or act required by law to be taken or one, or in the giving of any notice required by law to be given, and the Court may, upon like notice, confirm any act of a receiver, and any de-cision, report, order or judgment made in such

#### PAYMENT OF WAGES ON RAILROADS.

The law requiring the weekly payment of wages was amended so that every person or corporation perating a steam surface railroad shall, on or efore the 20th of each month, pay the employes bereof the wages earned by them during the prehall be absent from his regular place of labor at the usual time of payment, in which case paymen shall be made at any reasonable time thereafter

to merger and the rights of dissenting stockholders relative to the procedure in case of a change of location; providing that, in assessments for taxation, there shall be deducted from the value of such shares such sum as is in the same proportion such value as is the aggregate sum of the as-seed value of the real estate of the bank or banking association, and the value of its personal property exempt by law from taxation, and in which any portion of their capital is invested, in which said shares are held, to the whole amount of the capital stock of the bank or banking associa-A law provides that the appropriations made for the banking department, in Chapter 634 of the Laws of 1894, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Government," for carrying out the provisions of Chapter 689, of the Laws of 1822, for the supervision of mortgage companies, organized under the laws of other States, and conerning building, mutual loan and accumulating fund associations, and foreign co-operative loan and building and similar associations, shall be assessed against and collected of said corporations in the man-aer, and as provided in Sections 7 and 134 of the Banking law, Chapter 689, of the Laws of 1892. Lincoln's birthday, February 12, was made a legal holiday. but efforts failed to make legal holidays of Good Friday and the anniversary of the battle of Sara-

## THE BANKING LAW AMENDED.

The Banking law was amended as to savings anks as follows: Providing that no person who is banks as follows: Providing that no person who is not a resident of this State or against whom a judgment for any sum of money shall have been recovered or shall hereafter be recovered and re-main unsatisfied of record, or unsecured upon ap-peal, for a period of more than three months, or who hereafter takes the benefit of any law of bank-ruptcy or insolvency, or who makes a general as-signment for the benefit of creditors, shall be a rustee of any savings bank, and the office of any such trustee is vacated; providing that if from any mamination or report the Superintendent shall con-ciude that a savings bank is insolvent and in un-mate condition to transact business he may forthwith take possession of its property and business and retain such possession until the termination of the action or proceeding taken by the Attorney-General; providing that no officer, director, clerk General; providing that no officer, director, clerk or agent of any bank, or savings bank, shall borrow from the corporation with which he is officially connected any sum of money without the consent and approval of a majority of the board of directors or trustees; making it unlawful for a majority of the board of trustees of any savings bank to the board of trustees of any savings bank to mg to the board of directors of any one bank, it company or National banking association; widing that no savings bank hereafter incorted shall do business or be located in the same or in any room communicating with any bank, at company or National banking association.

The same law was amended so that savings banks or the same law was amended so that savings banks or the savings banks.

rest in the stocks or bonds or interest-bearobligations of any State of the United States, used in pursuance of the authority of the Legisure of such State, as a bond or obligation or insubbearing security for the funding or settlement of any previous obligation of such State states of any previous obligation of such State settlement obligation or other bonds or interestrating obligations of such State, or of any State, and in pursuance of Legislative authority as greated, there has been no default in the payors of either principal or interest since the issubbeads of any city, fown or village, school distinct of any city or county of this State, is for school purposes, or in the interest-bearing factions of any city or county of this State, is pursuant to the authority of any law of the later the payment of which the faith and credit the municipality issuing them are pledged. Also the stocks or bonds of the following cities: Boston, vorcester, Cambridge, Lowell and Fail River, and Constructions, Mo.; Cleveland, Clasimati and Confedero, R. I.; New-Haven and Hariford, Connition, Ma.; Philadelphia, Pittsburg, Aliegheny, adding and Scraaten, Penn.; Minneapoles and St. Minneapoles and Tranton, N. J.; Baltimore, Md. If at

the valuation for the purposes of taxation, cease to be an authorized investment for the moneys of savings banks; but the Superintendent of the Banking Department may, in his discretion, require any savings bank to sell such bonds or stocks of said city as may have been purchased prior to said increase of debt.

LOANS ON PERSONAL PROPERTY.

A law was passed, limited first to Buffalo but afterward amended so as to apply also to New-York and Brooklyn, providing that any three or more persons may organize and become a corporation for the purpose of aiding such persons as shall be deemed in need of pecuniary assistance, by loans of money at interest, not exceeding \$200 to any one person, upon a pledge or mortgage of pensonal property, by making, signing, acknowledging and filing a certificate in the form prescribed by the Business Corporation law, and by filing a bond in an amount equal to one-tenth of its capital stock, but not less than the sum of \$5.000, with the Superintendent of the Banking Department, with sufficient sureties, to be approved by him, for the faithful observance of all general provisions of law regulating business corporations within the State of New-York, and the provisions of this act, and thereupon the persons who shall have signed the said certificate, and their associates and successors, shall be a criporation of the name stated in said certificate. The laws requiring contracts for the conditional sales of personal property on credit to be filed in the town clerk's and other offices were amended so as to exempt wood-cutting machinery. deemed in need of pecuniary assistance, by loans of

to exempt wood-cutting machinery.

The Penal Code was amended so that a person who directly or indirectly receives any interest, discount or consideration upon the loan or forbearance of money, goods or things in action, or upon the loan, use or sale of his personal credit in any wise, where there is taken for such loan, use or sale of personal credit security upon any household furniture, sewing-machines, plate, or silverware, in actual use, tools or implements of trade, wearing apparel or jewelry, or as security for the loan, use or sale of personal credit as aforesaid makes a pretended purchase of such property from any person, and permits the pledger to retain the possession thereof, greater than 6 per cent per annum, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

The Hevised Statutes relative to brokerage were amended so that no person shall, directly or indirectly, take or receive more than 50 cents for a brokerage, soliciting, driving or procuring the loan or forbearance of 5100, and in that propertion for a greater or less sum, except loans in real estate security; nor more than 35 cents for making or re-newing any bond, bill, note or other security given for such loan or forbearance, or for any counter bond, bill, note or other security concerning the same. Efforts were made, without success, to change a pawnbroker's ileense from \$500 to \$50 and \$1,000, and reducing the maximum rate of charges from 3 per cent the legal rate of interest failed to pass.

A law passed for the protection of bona-dde pur-

making 5 per cent the legal rate of interest falses to pass.

A law passed for the protection of bona-fide purchasers and holders of coupon bonds and of municipal corporations against misfeasance, maifeasance or negligence of public officers. The Revised Statutes relative to limited partnerships were strengthened. Principals were relieved from listility for agents' acts in certain cases. The opening, abstracting, copying and publishing of letters, telegrams and private papers were made a misdemeanor. Provision was made to regulate and determine the procedure in actions and proceedings relating to the title to or possession of goods, wares and merchandise on storage in warehouses.

#### BAGGAGE IN LODGING-HOUSES.

It is provided that a lodging-house-keeper may have the same lien upon the baggage of a guest which is possessed by the proprietor of a hotel or inn; and that a person who obtains any lodging, food or accommodation at an inn, boarding-house or ledging-house, except an emigrant lodging-house

or ledging-house, except an emigrant lodging-house, without pay therefor, with intent to defraud the proprietor or manager thereof, or who obtains credit at such an inn, boarding-house or lodging-house by the use of any false pretence, or who, after obtaining credit or accommodation at such an inn, boarding-house or ledging-house, absconds and surreptitiously removes his bagase therefrom without paying for his food, accommodation or lodging, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

R. L. Austin, A. C. Barsiow and William H. Porter were incorporated as the Investment Securities Company; and John J. Jordan, William H. Walker, John H. Meyer, James M. Ludden, Patrick J. Roon and William Lancer as the Metropolis Finance Company of New-York. The charter of the New-York Building and Improvement Company was amended so that it may furnish and sell power, water and ice, and lay conduits and pipes. Charters failed to pass for the Empire State Mortgage Loan and Investment Company, the Manhattan Finance Company of New-York, and the Public Supply and Information Company of Brooklyn.

#### TRADE AND FINANCE ABROAD.

INCREASE OF CHINESE COMMERCE-TO REDUCE THE RATE OF DISCOUNT OF THE BANK OF FRANCE-THE TRANSVAAL GOLD CRAZE.

The foreign trade of China during the year 189 was on the increase, despite the war and epidemics which desolated the Middle Empire. According to statistics prepared by the secretary of the Custom House, and analyzed in "Le Précurseur," of Ant House, and analyzed in "Le Précurseur," of Antwerp, one of the most trustworthy commercial papers in Europe, Chinese importations amounted to 696,000,000 francs, and the exportations to 471,000,000, Compared to the figures of 1833, importations had increased by 40,000,000, and exportations by 42,000,000. Woollen exportations had risen from 34,800 piculs in 1884, to 225,000 in 1894. Raw cotton, which was exported to Japan and Europe to the amount of 576,000 piculs in 1893, had risen to 747,000 piculs in 1894. All this despite the fluctuations which during last year, varied by 10 per cent, the taci having been quoted between 2s. 174d, and 2s. 274d.

A letter, or, rather, a memorial, has been addressed recently to the administrator of the Bank of France by M. Jules Jaluzot, a Deputy, asking for a decrease in the rate of discount of the bank. This great National financial institution had already granted a diminution, but another move in that direction is considered necessary to French industry and commerce. Some newspapers having asid that M. Jaluzot had signed his memorial as a member of the Chamber of Deputies, he wrote them that he had not acted in the matter as a politician and a Deputy, but as a private citizen, and in the capacity as director of the company of the famous "Magasins du Printemps."

One of the principal products of Paraguay is the yerba mate, which is largely used as tea in South America. It was discovered recently that adulteration was practised in the commerce and preparation of that plant, and the Minister of the Interior, at Asuncion, has recently taken severe measures to detect and punish those who practise adulteration. In the Dominican Republic agriculture and com-

merce have continued to progress in 1894, according to trustworthy but indefinite information; but the fficial report has not yet been published. It is official report has not yet been published. It is admitted that there has been a continuation of the progress signaled during the preceding two years. In 1892 the importations were of 2,444,079 persos or dollars, and of 2,846,894 in 1893. The exportation from San Domingo, which reached 3,842,790 persos in 1892, increased to 5,688,278 in 1893. The production of coffee, sugar and tobacco has increased by nearly 100 per cent since 1890.

The Transval gold craze continues to show no chairment in Furning analysis.

abatement in Europe, especially in France, where the famous woolien stockings are emptied for the purchase of shares in the hundreds of visionary companies in South Africa. The enthusiasm of the small investors is easily explained by the fact that, while the collapse of many mines is not mentioned, the success of some others is extensively paraded. It is difficult to resist the temptation to paraded. It is difficult to resist the temptation to buy shares when it is published urbi et orbi that the gold production of the Witwatersrand, for instance, has reached from 22,155 ounces of gold in 1897 to 2,024,159 ounces in 1894. Still, there are some cool-headed men in France who fear a krach in the gold mine speculation somewhat similar to that of the Panama Canal, and who spend patriotically their time and their money in attempts to warn their countrymen. The latest effort in that line has been the publication in Paris of a technical magazine, "L'Or et L'Argent," edited by M. Joseph Aron, a retired merchant, who is fighting against the intended entry of some gold shares upon the official list of quotations of the Paris Bourse.

The latest news from Buenos Ayres states that, in consequence of the high price that millers in the Argentine Republic have to pay for wheat, ship-ments to Europe have been almost suspended.

The official statistics concerning the commerce of Mexico during the first quarter of 1894-95 have Mexico during the first quarter of 1894-95 have been published. Compared with those of the same period in 1893-94, they show a decrease in importation of \$71,170,415, against \$7,675,159, and an increase in exportation of \$29,235,700, against \$18,329,151. The exports of coffee, vanilla and tobacco have been diminished, however, during the first quarter of 1894-95, but that diminution has been more than counterbalanced by the increase in the exports of silver ore from \$1,171,532 to \$2,050,83, and by that of henequin from \$1,205,232 to \$2,057,111.

## THE SITUATION IN OHIO.

Ex-State Senator Jeremiah Sullivan, of Ohio, has been at the Imperial Hotel. Mr. Sullivan bears a striking resemblance to Governor McKinley, and is often taken for Ohio's choice for the Presidential

often taken for Ohio's choice for the Presidential nomination. However, Mr. Sullivan is a Democrat and hopes to see his party win. Speaking of affairs in Ohio he said the other day:

"It looks as if ex-Governor Foraker had the whip hand of things in the Republican column of Ohio politics. He seems to be running affairs about as he wishes. The nomination of Bushnell, however, in my estimation, is the best thing that the party could have done. Hoyt, and the other candidates, were all good men, but Bushnell was the logical representative of the party. He will poll heavily all along the line and is popular.

"The Democratic State Convention is not to be held until next month. We shall place a strong candidate in the field and then make a short, sharp fight."

Breaking of the silver question in Ohio and its

fight."

Speaking of the silver question in Ohio, and its possible bearing on the next National election, Mr. Suilivan said:

"The opinion regarding the free coinage of silver is divided. The predominant sentiment, however, seems to be in favor of a sound currency system. I do not think that the question will cut much of a figure in the next National campaign. The sentiment seems to be dying out, and I believe that in auchiar year it will be practically dead."

MICHIGAN BATTLE MONUMENTS.

THEY WILL MARK THE STATIONS OF REGI-MENTS FROM THAT STATE IN THE CHICK-

Grand Rapids, Mich., July 13 (Special).—The Chickamauga, Chattanooga and Missionary Ridge Military Park Commission, of Michigan, has selected designs and awarded contracts for the moments to be erected in the park in honor of the Michigan troops engaged in that battle. M. J. Power, of New-York, secured the contracts for four of the regimental monuments, costing \$1,500 each, and the Smith Granite Company, of Westerly, R. L. the other seven. The monuments are to be of white granite and bronze, and are to be pleted by September 10, in time for the dedication on September 19 and 20. Upon each will be cut the name of the regiment and its commander, and the name of the brigade, corps and division to which it belonged, while on a plate of bronze will be a brief history of the regiment. Upon each monu-

ment also will be the State coat of arms in broads.

The 9th Infantry monument will be a life-sized statue of General Parkhurst in dark granite on a rough-cut white granite pedestal. That of the lith Infantry will be a statue of Colonel Staughton on a pedestal of polished white granite. A life-sized figure of a private soldier, fully accounted, in the act of shooting over a wall will mark the place of the little of the little place of the little of the little place of the little pl pardest fighting of the 13th Infantry. The engineers and mechanics' monument will have a base fourteen feet wide and a total height of eleven feet. In the die will be a bronze plate

upon which, in relief, will be pictured the laying of



The 22d Infantry monument will be after the same general idea, the bronze picture showing the regiment making its last desperate bayonet charge, after its ammunition had become exhausted a charge which resulted in its being surrounded and captured.

The monument of the 21st Infantry will be an irregular mass of granite, twelve feet high, sur-mounted by an eagle in bronze three feet high. The 10th Infantry will have a stone with a base five feet square, tapering upward to the height of twelve feet six inches, and in the face will be a bronze plate showing in relief a full-sized figure of a private soldier, fully armed and accounted and n fighting attitude. Battery D of the artillery will have a monument

with base six feet six inches square, tapering up-



pyramid of cannon balls at the top and bronze rammers on the corners. That of Battery A will show a bronze plate upon which will be pictured in relief Lieutenant Van Pelt's defence of his gun against two Confederates.

against two Confederates.

The 2d Cavalry monument will be six feet six inches wide, and nine feet six inches high. The 4th Cavalry will have one eleven feet square at the base, and seven feet high. On a bronze plate will



## 2D CAVALRY.

be shown a platoon of cavalry at Reed's Bridge.

be shown a platoon of cavalry at Reed's Bridge, firing across the river at the enemy.

The Michigan troops were much in evidence in the two days' battle of Chickamauga. They occupied the posts of danger, and the 24 Cavalry monument will mark the extreme right of the field, and that of the 10th Infantry the extreme left. The 4th Cavalry monument will be on the Reed's Bridge road, near where the first men were killed in the



The location of the other memorials is

battle. The location of the other memorials is as follows:

Ninth Infantry, at the gateway to the park on the road from Chattanooga; 11th Infantry, near Snodgrass Hill; 22d Infantry, in the same neighborhood, marking the scene of the last desperate bayonet charge and capture; 13th Infantry, near the Vineyard House on the Lafayette road; 21st Infantry, at the left and in front of the Bloody Pond, where 104 men were killed; Battery A, near the place where Lieutenant Van Pelt fell; Battery D, near the Poe House; engineers and mechanics, near Brown's Ferry, where they built the first pontoon bridge.

The Michigan Commission is made up of Charles E, Belknap, of this city, as president; E, A. Crane, of Kalamazoo; S. F. Dwight, of Hillsdale; L. L. Church, of Howard City, and J. M. Whallon, of Flushing, all veterans of the battle in which 600 brave Michigan men fell. The State will dedicate the monuments on September 19, the anniversary of the first day's fighting, and on the day following will occur the Government dedication. Governor Rich will be at the head of the Michigan ceremonies and he will be attended by his military staff, some of the State troops and hundreds of old soldiers and citizens from this State.

## A MODBRN MIRACLE.

From The Wheeling Intelligencer.

From The Wheeling Intelligencer.

Queer things are happening in these days. One of them happened in McKean County, Penn., while the forest fires were raging there. The fire-fighters were almost exhausted with hunger, and knew not which way to turn, for they could not stop fighting the advancing fiames. Then there appeared a dark cloud in the sky. The cloud burst, and from it fell rain and hundreds of fishes. The fishes fell on the burning coals of wood, and then the

## A GREAT ASTRONOMER.

THE LIFE AND WORK OF PROFESSOR SIMON NEWCOMB.

> FROM COUNTRY SCHOOL-TEACHER TO LEADING ASTRONOMER OF THE WORLD-HIS EARLY STRUGGLES-AN ENEMY OF CRANKS AND

> WASHINGTON HOME. Washington, July 13 (Special) .- From a country school-teacher, who "exhibited a very considerable knowledge of the higher branches of mathematics," to the most eminent astronomer in the world is long stride. Among the diplomas, medals, degree and letters from royalties and scientists in Pro-fessor Newcomb's possession is a worn slip of paper

which reads:

This is to certify that Mr. Simon Newcomb was well qualified to instruct children in the various branches of an English education, and possesses a good moral character. He exhibited a very considerable knowledge of the higher branches of mathematics.

W. J. SUDLER,

Trustees for Primary School No. 4, of Q. A. Co., for year ending 1855.

Sudlersville, Nevember 22, 1855.

It was while teaching this same country school that Professor Newcomb began his scientific career

that Professor Newcomb began his scientific career with a paper published in "The National Inteli-

gencer" at Washington, over his own signature, in answer to some upstart, who essayed to refute the Copernican system of astronomy. This paper brought pleasing acknowledgments from scientific Some time afterward young Newcomb made the acquaintance of Professor Henry, "who," he says, "encouraged and promoted my advancement in a way which will ever be remer bered by me and my children." Through Professor Henry's influence an appointment was secured for him on "The Nautical Almanac," at that time published in Cambridge. Residence at Cambridge opened up a new world to the future astronomer, and intercourse with scien-tific men was stimulating and educating. Mr. Newcomb at once entered the Lawrence Scientific School and attended the sectures of Professor Pierce. He subsequently took his degree here.

#### EARLY STRUGGLES.

It must be both amusing and gratifying to a mar on the top of the ladder of fame to remember his strugales to reach that exalted position. Professor Newcomb was born in the northern part of Nova Scotla, and his boyhood was spent in that bleak region, where there were few educational advanregion, while father, however, was a school-teacher, and he at least lived in a congenial atmosphere. He soon pushed beyond his father's teaching, and the hunger and thirst for knowledge were always upon him. His unusual ambition in this direction was almost an embarrassment, and he says in regard to this passion for study: "In my own eyes I was a 'hisus naturae' born with a taste for things which were of no use, and without any of the powers necessary to gain a respectable living.

From the moment of his appointment as com-puter on "The Nautical Almanae" Professor New comb's way was comparatively smooth. In 1861, without examination and without recommendation save that of his extraordinary ability, he was appointed to a professorship in the Navy, and in 1887 he was made superintendent of "The American Ephemeris and Nautical Almanac," which position

In Europe and in America, among those who ognize the fact that Professor Newcomb stands at the head of his profession, there is a general im tory. According to precedent, if not according law, this institution is superintended by a naval officer. Recently there has been a change in its internal management which gives the astrono direction to a scientist. It is currently believed that Professor Newcomb was offered the position of astronomical director, now held by Professor the presidency of the University of California allowed him by the Government, were declined, be cause before everything Professor Newcomb is sake is above all material advantages. The tables of the planets, which have been his hiework, are still unfinished, and his ambition to complete these before his retirement from the Navy two years hence is responsible for the rejection of many tempting proposals. These tables are the most ac-curate of any in existence, and have been adopted in all the nautical almanaes of Europe America, and will have an effect upon accurate astronomy for a century to come. The formula Pro-Newcomb uses in preparing these tables inolves the most complete mathematical discussion known, and through the more extended obervations available he has reduced these tables to

HONORS FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. For his work on these tables honors have come to him from all over the world; every honor, in fact, that could be offered he has received. In the bay-window of his drawing-room stands a rare vase of jasper on a pedestal of black marble, which, says Mr. Nyren's letter announcing the gift, recognition of these deserts, His Majesty the Emperor, has graciously sent as a present for you, from the Observatory of Pulkova." The Observa-tory of Tokio sent two bronze vases of exquisite workmanship and design and great intrinsic value. Every university in the world of any reputation has given him a degree. The Royal Astronomical Society awarded him a gold medal in 1874; in 1878 he received from Leyden the Huyghens medal, which is given only once in twenty years for the most important work accomplished in astronomy between the awards, and in 1890 the Royal Society of England sent him the Copley medal. was abroad he was feted everywhere, and tasted that homage and received that tribute which Europeans delight to render to their great scholars,

which are almost unknown in America. Professor Newcomb is the most simple and modes of men. His great honors sit lightly upon him, and he deprecates any unusual stir on his account. As much as Carlyle did, he hates shams and makebelieve, and his love of honesty and truth is the strongest point in his character. He is without question at the head of his profession to-day, and among the greatest mathematical astronomers of all time. He is, in a word, a mathematical genius, and his work shows the chief characteristics of gentus, boldness and independence, unhandicapped by tradition and precedent. In appearance, Professor Newcomb is of medium height, stoutly built. His head is large and massive, thick iron-gray hair waves back from a broad, low forehead, and heavy eyebrows shade large and honest eyes. His features are strong, and he wears a small beard, which, like his hair, showns signs of gray. His whole appearance and personality indicate force. There is a popular belief among those who know him superficially that he is brusque, which is accounted for by his direct and positive manner. There is certainly nothing of the courtier about him, but he possesses the enviable talent of attracting people to him, especially those with whom his work brings him in contact. Perhaps the best testimony of the sweetness and responsiveness of his character, beneath an almost impenetrable reserve, is the affection of his subordinates for him.

A CRANK WELL SNUBBED. From years of experience Professor Newcomb has learned to recognize a crank at first sight. This talent and a certain grim Yankee humor result in many humorous situations. Recently a man, one of those industrious and ambitious individuals who devote years in endeavoring to overturn some es-tablished law, called upon Professor Newcomb, who at a glance was able to classify his visitor.

"Are you Mr. Newcomb?" asked the stranger.
"Yes." answered the professor shortly.
"Professor Simon Newcomb, the eminent astrono-

"Total is my name," said the "eminent astronomer."
"I came to ask you," said the visitor, "what your theory is about the attraction of gravitation."
"Hayen't any," said the professor, laconically, "You haven't any theory about the attraction of gravitation?"
"No."

"You know there is such a thing, don't you?"
"No."
"You know the planets revolve around the sun,

"You know the planets revolve around the sun, surely?"
"Yes, I know that," said Professor Newcomb, already tired out with his visitor.
"What makes them revolve?" asked the determined investigator, seeing a chance to make the professor talk.
"I know they revolve because I see them, and that's all I know about it."
"And you have no theory about the attraction of gravitation?"
"None."
The crestfalien visitor, who had doubtless overturned the whole Newtonian law, unable to involve the professor in an argument, was forced at last to go away unsatisfied.

Professor Newcomb has built a fine house in the west end of Washington, large enough to accommodate his small family—which, since the marriage of his two elder daughters, consists only of Mrs. Newcomb and their youngest daughter—and his large library. The house is a capacious one, and in every room space is given to books. Some of the rooms are lined with them from floor to ceiling, while in others there is only a bookcase or two. A room in the third floor is completely filled with

A GREAT SCIENTIST'S LIBRARY.

The professor's library and study is on the first

floor, between the drawing-room and dining-room. The room is large, well lighted from the side and bookcases line its walls. His desk stands between two windows, and back of it is a case of reference books, admirably arranged with filecase at the bot two windows, and back of it is a case of reference books, admirably arranged with filecase at the bottom. At the side of the desk is a revolving bookstand, on which are reference books and some of the works of which Professor Newcomb is the author. On a shelf by themselves are his series of mathematical textbooks. The story of how these books happened to be written is an interesting one. One evening Professor Newcomb found his daugher and the story of how these books happened to be written is an interesting one. One evening Professor Newcomb found his daugher a which he thought too abstruse for a beginner. "Put it aside." he said, "and I will write you something to study." He began at once and wrote a lesson for her, and after this wrote every evening her lesson for the next day. A complete algebra was the result. This was finally published, and a whole series of mathematical textbooks followed. Besides these textbooks, Professor Newcomb is the author of a number of scientific works, countiess papers on scientific subjects, and for recreation he has written much on political economy. The most successful, widely read and charming of Professor Newcomb's books is his popular astronomy, which has been translated into French and German. The book was intended for laymen, and is written so clearly and simply that it is perfectly intelligible to persons entirely ignorant of mathematics.

Professor Newcomb has done much of his work at home in his cosey library. For years the office of "The Nautical Almanac" was in cramped and crowded quarters in the Navy Department. There would have been room for him in the old Observatory, but Professor Newcomb absolutely refused to work in a building that was not freproof, fearing some accident to his valuable papers, when the new Observatory was finished. "The Nautical Almanac" was in oranged and office, with its small salary, is not an adequate roward for the tromendous service Professor Newcomb has rendered to science, but under existing conditions it is the best in the gift of the

#### WAR OF BATS AND SWALLOWS.

WITH SOME REMARKABLE TALES OF A PARROT. Montrose, Penn., July 11 .- "For several years," said the resident of Silver Lake Township, "a colony of bats lived in an unused chimney on my place The little creatures had multiplied until there were scores of them, and as they did no harm we let them alone. Last spring a flock of chimney swalows sailed into the chimney one morning and un dertook to settle there for the summer. They hadn't been in many seconds when they came fluttering out in great commotion, with a lot of bats in hot out in great the bats flitted back as soon as the swal-lows had got a few yards from the chimney top, and the swallows circled and twittered overhead as though they were engaged in a noisy debate as to what it would be best for them to do next.

"In a short time the birds got all their forces together and darted down the chimney, seemingly with a determination to dislodge the peaceable bats mmediately. The rightful little occupants of the chimney, however, were all at home and ready for action; for no sooner had the last swallow gone down the chimney than the whole flock flew out as though they had been fired from a trap. The bats were after them, but this time they didn't halt at the mouth of the chimney as before. They made a flerce attack on the twittering intruders, their mede of warfare being for two or three of their forces to pitch upon one swallow. The swallows darted and dived and separated to get away from their spunky pursuers, but the bats outnumbered them to such an extent that they were completel

"In the battle three of the swallows dropped help less to the ground, and pretty soon the victorious bats flitted into the chimney, giving vent to faint squeaks, apparently of triumph, on the way. The badly whipped birds scattered in confusion, and I found that the three swallows on the ground had received deadly bites in the throat from the plucky little home defenders. During the rest of the day

and twittered a good deal till the middle of the forenoon, when they all poured down the chimney in a stream. The bats drove them out in a hurry, but the swallows railled quickly and flew into the chimney again. Once more the bats forced the swallows to retreat, but they did so in good order, and I then saw that the number of combatants was

about equal on each side.
"When the swallows entered the chimney for the third time, the bats sent them out with a rush, the entire colony chasing the birds and giving battle to them in the air. Three swallows and two bats tumbled to the ground; then the birds sailed away with a great racket, and the bats flitted down the chimney. In the afternoon the swallows again dived down the chimney, and the bats, after another vig-orous battle, whipped them and continued to hold the fort. The next morning the swallows satied into the abiding place of the bats with a larger for e than before, and about once an hour through the day the two sides had a fight, the result each the day the two sides had a fight, the result each time being in favor of the bats. But the swallows were bound to oust the bats and get possession of the chimney; and they were so persistent and determined in their attacks that within a week they drove every one of the bats out of the chimney and began to build their nests in it."

"Fine story," said the man who sat on the nail

"When I was a boy down in Lycoming County is the fifties," said the Scrantonian, with a grin, "my folks had the smartest parrot I ever saw. Kate, as we called her, was never confined in a cage. She had all the freedom she wanted, and the constant of the control of the control of the carried sequence was that she could fly like a swallow Kate was an excellent talker as well as a goo flyer. Hesides being bright, she was saucy, and eventually her sauciness and loquacity gave the folks some trouble. "The parrot was very fond of hearing people sing,

"The parrot was very fond of hearing people sing, but she didn't like to hear the minister preach. The church was next to our house, and on summer Sundays Kate was in the habit of flying into it and perching herself in the rear of the gailery till the choir had sung twice and the minister had begun to read the text, when she would sail out of the window. One Sunday, just as the parson had started to preach, Kate shouted, 'Let us sing!' and, flying down to the front of the gailery, she took the chorister's tuning fork in her claw, bit it spitefully, held it to her cur and sang out, 'Do, mi, sol, do?' so distinctly that the minister got red in the face. One of the chori crove Kate out amid the snickering of the congregation, but she soon flew back, slighted on the pulpit, looked up at the parson and said in a cross tone: 'Less talk and more music, mister!' Kate's rudeness caused much mirth and she was not allowed to go to church again, "'Kate used to sit on the mantle while father said grace, and as he always used the same form of thanks the parrot got so that she knew it by heart. One day the minister took tea at our house, and of course father asked him to say grace. Kate was on the mantle as usual, and before the preacher had finished his first sentence she shouted: 'That ain't right!' at him till he finished, when she flew to father's shoulder and said coaxingly: 'Pa, you say it.' The parson went on, but Kate kept shouting. 'That sin't right!' at him till he finished, when she parrot, and when he got through Kate perched herself on the preacher's chair and muttered: 'That's the way to say it.' The parson was a very serious man, but the parrot's capers tickled him greatly.

"A pack pedler who came through our region periodically gave Kate a cuff one day because she was treading on the groots he had spread out for mother to look at. He had long halr, and while he was strapping his pack Kate flew in with her claws full of mud and plastered his head with it. Then she called him a hief and a liar, and broke him of but she didn't like to hear the minister preach The church was next to our house, and on summer

# reference books, textbooks, books written by Pro-fessor Newcomb, catalogues and pamphlets of every NEW-YORK'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CXXVI.

FINE SITES FOR BUILDINGS IN THE TWENTY-FOURTH WARD.

WISDOM OF THE TRUSTEES IN SELECTING THE

LAND-SOMETHING ABOUT PRIMARY NO. 46. padly ventilated and poorly lighted, which is so frequently made against some of the downtown schools, cannot be made against the schools in the Twenty-fourth Ward. This is the northern school division in the city, and it takes in a large part of the district annexed some twenty yearso. It has been the good fortune of the schools



J. E. EUSTIS.

this ward to be under an unusually efficient board of school trustees, and it is largely owing to their foresight and energy that the schools were estab-lished with plenty of ground around them. Thus there will be plenty of room for adding to the buildings without interfering with the light or venti-lation of the classrooms. Another evidence of the lation of the classrooms. Another evidence of the foresight of these trustees is the fact that they have endeavored to secure large sites when the land was comparatively cheap, and nearly all the school lands in the Twenty-fourth Ward have been purchased at very low figures. The site of Grammar School No. 63, 250x150 feet, was secured for \$7,-000; the site of Grammar School No. 64, 135x300 feet, for \$20,000; the site for Grammar School No. 65, 250 x331 feet, for \$16,000, and the site of Grammar School No. 66, 220x110 feet, for \$12,500. The same econom is noticeable in the purchase of the sites of primary schools in the ward, the site of Primary School No. 18, 100x200 feet, costing \$4,200; the site of Primary School No. 45, 100x100 feet, \$1,000, and the site of Primary School No. 47, 145x170 feet, \$1,500. Many of the downtown school sites, not over 1002 100 feet, have cost \$86,000, \$87,000, \$90,000, \$100,000 and even as high as \$157,800. It is only a question of time when the magnificent school sites in the Twenty-fourth Ward will be almost as valuable as the school sites downtown. So the school trustees have saved the city large sums of money by their foretherest.

school street the city large sums of money by their forethought.

One of the most active members of this board of trustees is John E. Eustis, a lawyer, whose office is at No. 89 Broadway. Mr. Eustis was a school inspector some time before he became a trustee. He was mentioned as a School Commissioner in place of some of those removed by Mayor Strong. Primary School No. 46 is on a high point of land, commanding a fine view of the surrounding country. It is an ideal spot for a school, but at present a sufficient number of streets have not been cut through, so that the school is somewhat difficult to reach. The school trustees of this ward have made repeated efforts to have the city officials open more streets, but down to the present time in vain.

The principal of this school is Miss Elizabeth M. Ball. Her assistants are Miss Ellen Murray, Miss Ella Hopkins, Miss Bertha M. Calhoun and Miss Edith Guy.

#### A PORTRAIT SHOW IN THE FALL.

Preparations for the second exhibition of por-traits of women at the National Academy of De-sign, for the benefit of St. John's Guild and the Orthopoedic Hospital, are rapidly going forward, and the management find that as a still livelier in and the management find that as a still related to the state of the st dren this year, in addition to those of women, in consequence of which the name of the will be changed to the Portrait Show.

but didn't try to enter it, and the bats stayed inside.

"The next morning I noticed that the flock of swallows on the premises was four or five times larger than the day before. The birds flew about and twittered a good deal till the middle about the control of the larger than the day before. The birds flew about and twittered a good deal till the middle about the control of the large number of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of the control of pictures by the most eminent painters of pictures by the most eminent also secured one of the last pieces of work of famous English portrait-painter, the lamented Holi. Henry G. Marquand, chairman of the Executive Committee, has sailed for Europe, and during his visit abroad will obtain the loan of many important French and English paintings. Mr. Marquand said that assurances had been received of a sufficient number of portraits of persons of prominence on the other side to lend novelty to the exhibition. In view of the large number of American women who occupy stations of prominence and celebrity in Europe, there was no doubt that the introduction of a number of portraits of such people would prove a popular feature of the exhibition.

The length of the exhibition has been somewhat extended. It will cover the entire month of November and the first part of December. William A. Coffin having resigned from the jury of artists, his place has been filled by H. Siddons Mowbray.

The committees in charge of the exhibition are now composed as follows:

Executive Committee—Henry G. Marquand, chairman; Robert Waller, Jr., secretary; Osgood Weish, Ladles Committee—Henry G. Barney, William F. King and H. Walter Webb.

Ladles Committee—Henry R. Botter, Mrs. Henry Winthrop Gray, Mrs. John A. Lowery, Mrs. Charles de Rham, Jr., Mrs. J. Hobart Warren and Mrs. Adolf Ladenburg.

Artists' Committee—Francis Lathrop, chairman; Committee—Francis Lathrop, chairman; Mowbray, R. Swain Gifford, Benjamin C. Porter and Stanford White. Manager, E. Hamilton Bell, No. 48 East Twentieth-st.

## AUTOMATIC TENNIS.

"What's wanted," said the Summer Man, as he "What's wanted." said the Summer Man, as he shifted himself slightly in the hammack, "is some way to lighten the arduous work of outdoor sports. See what we have done for baseball—hired men to play it for us, and changed it from a disagreeable and fatiguing labor to a delightful pastime, the exertion of cheering for the home team and applying abusive and opprobrious epithets to the umpire giving the muscles just the proper play and bringing a healthy glow to the skin. But tennis we still play in the manner of the Dark Ages."

"Well," replied the other Summer Man, "we can easily hire men to play that, too, no doubt."

"Tut, tut; that won't do," said the other, earnestly. "We must not lose the amateur element in tennis. Professional tennis cannot be thought of. But science and mechanical invention may be called

science and mechanical invention may be called in. Next season I shall introduce the A B C Automatic Tennis Apparatus. At the proper distance each side of the net and parallel with it, I shall place several slender metal rods a few inches from the ground. On these I shall string rackets by holes through the ends of their handles, so that they will through the ends of their nandles, so that they will lie flat on the ground, something like scales on a fish, only not quite so thickly. The thing will be operated by electricity. I'll have a keyboard for each side—press a key and up flies a racket. Ball knocked back and forth forty times a minute. Play

knocked back and forth forty times a minute. Play you a game year from to-day—you in that hammock, I in this. Beautiful, simple, quick and easy. Every-body will be playing tennis with the Automatic Apparatus inside of three months after I put it on the market."
"Could you not apply the idea to billiards?" asked the other.
"My dear fellow, would you go out with a palette and a manistick and paint the lily? No, sir; the game of billiards is too fragile and beautiful a thing to be touched by mechanics; it must ever continue to be handplayed."

THREE CENTENARIANS IN THE VILLAGE.

Sergent, Ky., letter to The Louisville CourierJournal.

Wednesday was a great day at Elk Garden, Va.,
forty miles east of here. The affair was a birthday dinner at the home of the Rev. James
Hess, son of "Uncle Bill" Hess, in honor of the
latter's 108th birthday anniversary. His thirtytwo children from different parts of Virginia, 18
grandchildren, ninety great-grandchildren and many
of the people of Russell County were present.

"Uncle Bill" is in splendid health, can walk te
town and back in a day, a distance of fitten miles,
and can read the finest of print without spectacles.
He came from North Carolina seventy-five years
ago, and settled where he now lives, then a forest.
He cast his first vote for James Madison for President.

Elk Garden contains two other old people. They